There is no occasion for the Government to react. The transfer was made in accordance with the provisions of Article 222 of the Constitution with the concurrence of the Chief Justice of India.

Transfer of gas connections

167. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to allow the customers to transfer their gas connections in the names of their close blood relations in the event of their marriages or 1 aving tations for a long period;

(b) if so, what arc the details in this regard; and

(c) if not, what arc the reasons" therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) : (a) and (b) Normally, LPG connections are non-transforable. However, in special cases like those mentioned in the question, the LPG connection can be transforred, subject to production of an authorisation letter from the original owner and deposit of a security at the current prevailing ra by the prospective transferee.

(c) Docs not ar

Scheme to tap new energy sources

168. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to evolve a comprehensive scheme to tap new energy sources; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT.SATHE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Comprehensive programmes of R&D, demonstration, utilisation, industrial production, evaluation etc. to tap new energy sources are being implemented by the Depart ment of Non-Conventional Energy Sources. As a result of intensive R&D activities and demonstration pro grammes taken up in various arras of non-conventional energy sources, a number of technologies have been di V'loped which have been found technically f asible for various appli cations including generation of elec tricity. Large-scale extension pro grammes, such as Nationl Prog ramme on Biegas Development, National Programme of Improved Chulha, Solar Thermal Extension Programme have been launched throughout the country and have started making an impact in saving wood and conventional fuels, environ mental improvements and improve ment in the quality of lif- particularly in the rural areas. Solar photovoltaic systems have been developed and are being increasingly deployed for electrifying remote villages and otl < r small power ncc ds. A programme for utilisation of wind energy for pump ing and electricity generaticn is being implemented. Projects relat ing to production, conversion and utilisation of biomass have r ached the extension stage and biomass gasifiers i power production have already started to be commerci-alised. A number of energ y self-sufficient villagcs (URJA GRAMS)-have been set up and a programme initiated for a \arge number of such villages, where energy for cooking, lighting and ether needs of the entire village could be provided by locally available non-conventional souro s of energy. Investigation and development efforts relating to utilisation of tidal energy, ocean energy and